IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Hess et al.

Appln. No. : Art Unit : 3731

Filed: Examiner: M. Thaler

Title : Vessel Harvesting Retractor with Integral Electrosurgical Clamping

Elements

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

November 24, 2003
(Date of Deposit)

Brian S. Tomko
(Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative)

(Signature)

November 24, 2003

(Date of Signature)

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 3 of this paper.